



A very warm welcome for the royal family



Third edition of Baseball in Paradise to take place in October

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Trump investigations: Georgia prosecutor ups anticipation

By KATE BRUMBACK
and ERIC TUCKER
Associated Press

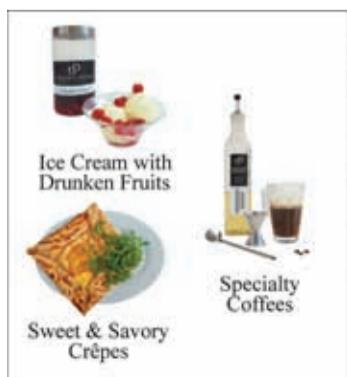
ATLANTA (AP) — Former President Donald Trump and his allies have been put on notice by a prosecutor, but the warning didn't come from anyone at the Justice Department. It was from a Georgia prosecutor who indicated she was likely to seek criminal charges soon in a two-year election subversion probe. In trying to block the release of a special grand jury's report, Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis argued in court last week that decisions in the case were "imminent" and that the report's publication could jeopardize the rights of "future defendants."

"I expect to see indictments in Fulton County before I see any federal indictments," said Clark Cunningham, a Georgia State University law professor.



Former President Donald Trump speaks at a campaign event at the South Carolina Statehouse, Jan. 28, 2023, in Columbia, S.C.
Associated Press

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Trump investigations: Georgia prosecutor ups anticipation

Continued from Front

Besides the Georgia inquiry, a Justice Department special counsel is investigating Trump over his role in working with allies to overturn his loss in the 2020 presidential election and his alleged mishandling of classified documents.

Trump had appeared to face the most pressing legal jeopardy from the probe into a cache of classified materials at his Florida resort, and that threat remains. But that case seems complicated, at least politically, by the recent discovery of classified records at President Joe Biden's Delaware home and at a Washington office. The Justice Department tapped a separate special counsel to investigate that matter. Willis opened her office's investigation shortly after the release of a recording of a Jan. 2, 2021, phone call between Trump and Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger. In that conversation, the then-president suggested that Raffensperger, a fellow Republican, could "find" the votes needed to overturn Trump's narrow election loss in the state to Biden, a Democrat.

"All I want to do is this: I just want to find 11,780 votes, which is one more than we have," Trump said on the call.

Since then, the investigation's scope has broadened considerably, encompassing among other things: a slate of Republican fake electors, phone calls by Trump and others to Georgia officials in the weeks after the 2020 election, and unfounded allegations of widespread election fraud made to state lawmakers. In an interview, Trump insisted he did "absolutely nothing wrong" and that his phone call with Raffensperger was "perfect." He said he felt "very confident" that he would not be indicted.

"She's supposed to be stopping violent crime, and that's her job," Trump said of Willis. "Not to go after people for political reasons,

that did things absolutely perfectly."

It is unclear how Willis' case will impact the Justice Department's probes or what

ber tapped Jack Smith, a former public corruption prosecutor, to act as special counsel overseeing investigations into Trump's

sual nature of the Georgia proceedings.

Willis in January of last year sought to convene a special grand jury to help



Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis watches proceedings during a hearing to decide if the final report by a special grand jury looking into possible interference in the 2020 presidential election can be released Jan. 24, 2023, in Atlanta.

Associated Press

contact her team has had with federal investigators. Justice Department prosecutors have been circumspect in discussing their investigations, offering little insight into how or when they might end.

But Willis' comments indicate that the Georgia investigation is on a path toward resolution — with charges or not — on a timetable independent of what the Justice Department is planning to do, legal experts said.

Cunningham, the Georgia State professor, said that Willis' comments implied that the special grand jury's report contained detail about people who the panel and Willis believe should, at minimum, be further investigated.

"She wouldn't be talking about the release of the report creating prejudice to potential future defendants unless she saw in the report peoples' names who she saw as potential future defendants," he added.

Attorney General Merrick Garland in Novem-

actions leading up to the deadly Jan. 6, 2021, Capitol riot and into his possession of hundreds of classified documents at the Mar-a-Lago resort in Palm Beach, Florida.

Though Smith and his team of prosecutors have issued grand jury subpoenas, he has not revealed when his investigation might conclude or who might be a target.

Garland has declined to discuss the probes, saying only that "no person is above the law" and that there aren't separate rules for Democrats and Republicans.

FBI agents recently searched Biden's Wilmington, Delaware, home, finding six items containing classified documents, the White House said. Further muddling the Justice Department's calculus: Classified records were found this month at the Indiana home of Trump's vice president, Mike Pence.

Public disclosures about Willis' case are the result, to some degree, of the un-

her investigation, citing the need for its subpoena power to compel the testimony of witnesses who otherwise wouldn't talk to her. She said in a letter to Fulton

County's chief judge that her office had received information indicating a "reasonable probability" that the 2020 election in Georgia "was subject to possible criminal disruptions."

The county's superior court judges voted to grant the request, and the panel was seated in May. The grand jurors heard from 75 witnesses and reviewed evidence collected by prosecutors and investigators.

Among the witnesses who testified were former New York mayor and Trump lawyer Rudy Giuliani, U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina and such Georgia state officials as Raffensperger and Gov. Brian Kemp.

The panel lacked the authority to issue an indictment, but its report is presumed to include recommendations for further action, possibly including potential criminal charges.

The special grand jury was dissolved earlier this month after wrapping up its work and finalizing a report on its investigation. The grand jurors recommended the report be made public.

News organizations, including The Associated Press, argued for the report to be released. At a hearing last week, Willis said that a decision was looming on whether to seek an indictment and that she opposed releasing the report because she wanted to ensure "that everyone is treated fairly and we think for future defendants to be treated fairly, it is not appropriate at this time to have this report released."

Attorneys for witnesses and others identified as targets have insisted that Willis is driven by politics rather than by legitimate concerns that crimes were committed. Among other things, they pointed to her public statements and initial willingness to speak to print and television news outlets.

Danny Porter, a Republican who served as district attorney in neighboring Gwinnett County for nearly three decades, said Willis has been navigating unfamiliar territory. Special grand juries are relatively rare in Georgia, and the law doesn't provide much guidance for prosecutors, he said.

Even so, Porter said, it appeared Willis had not crossed any ethical or legal red lines that would call into question the integrity of the investigation.

"Procedurally," he said, "I haven't seen anything that made me go, 'Oh, jeez, I wouldn't have done that.'"

In the West, pressure to count water lost to evaporation

By SUMAN NAISHADHAM

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Exposed to the beating sun and hot dry air, more than 10% of the water carried by the Colorado River evaporates, leaks or spills as the 1,450-mile (2,334-kilometer) powerhouse of the West flows through the region's dams, reservoirs and open-air canals.

For decades, key stewards of the river have ignored the massive water loss, instead allocating Arizona, California, Nevada and Mexico their share of the river without subtracting what's evaporated.

But the 10% can no longer be ignored, hydrologists, state officials and other western water experts say.

The West's multi-decade drought has sent water levels in key reservoirs along the river to unprecedented lows. Officials from Nevada and Arizona say that they, together with California, now need to account for how much water is actually in the river.

The challenge is in finding a method that California also agrees to.

"It's very hard to get consensus," said Sarah Porter, director of the Kyl Center for Water Policy at Arizona State University. She thinks it's unlikely that states will reach an agreement on their own, without federal intervention.

Unlike Arizona, California, Nevada and Mexico, the upriver or Upper Basin states — Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming — al-



Water flows down the Colorado River downriver from Hoover Dam in northwest Arizona, on Aug. 14, 2022, near the Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

Associated Press

ready take into account evaporation losses.

Now with a looming federal deadline for Colorado River basin states to say how they'll use at least 15% less water from the river, there's renewed urgency for Arizona, California and Nevada to factor in what's lost to evaporation.

One proposal comes from Nevada: States at the end of the river would see their Colorado River portion shrink based on the distance it travels to reach users. The farther south the river travels, the more water is lost as temperatures rise and water is exposed to the elements for longer. The Southern Nevada Water Authority estimates that roughly 1.5 million acre-feet of water are lost to evapo-

ration, transportation and inefficiencies each year in Arizona, Nevada and California. That's 50% more than Utah uses in a whole year. Nevada and Arizona could be on board with this plan. Nevada stands to lose the least under this plan since Lake Mead — the man-made reservoir from which Arizona, Nevada, California and Mexico draw water — sits in its backyard.

Tom Buschatzke, director of Arizona's Department of Water Resources, called Nevada's proposal fair.

"Calculating the losses as Nevada has proposed is probably the most equitable and matches the real, physical world," Buschatzke said. "The further you are, the more the losses are."

But crucially, California dis-

agrees. Officials there have said Nevada's plan would likely run afoul of western water law. California has rights to the largest share of Colorado River water. Just as important, in times of shortage, water cuts come later than for other users, based on the so-called Law of the River, a series of overlapping agreements, court decisions and contracts that determine how the river is shared. Its senior water rights mean it has been spared from cuts so far.

California water managers have said evaporation and system losses should be accounted for based on this existing system. In a December letter to federal officials, Christopher Harris, executive director of the

Colorado River Board of California, said any other approach could "face considerable legal and technical challenges."

For Arizona, that could mean shouldering losses so significant that some experts say the drinking water supply for Phoenix could be threatened due to diminished deliveries to the Central Arizona Project, the 336-mile (534-kilometer) aqueduct system that delivers Colorado River water to that metro area and Tucson.

Under Nevada's plan, California would pay a steep price. In addition to using more water from the river than any other state, its water travels some of the longest distances. California's Imperial Irrigation District, the single largest of all users of Colorado River water, would lose about 19% of its share. The region grows many of the nation's winter vegetables and alfalfa, and Imperial has said it disagrees with issuing water cuts according to evaporative losses at all.

Tina Shields, water manager for Imperial Irrigation District, said Arizona and Nevada — whose water rights are more junior than California's — were advocating for the Southern Nevada Water Authority's plan because it would benefit them to share the losses.

"When you have a junior, right, that's what you do," Shields said. "You try to share the problem with other users." □

West Virginia advances school mandate on 'In God We Trust'

By LEAH WILLINGHAM

Associated Press

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — Public schools in West Virginia may soon be required to display the phrase "In God We Trust" in every building if a bill passed by the state Senate on Monday becomes law.

The bill was introduced by Republican Sen. Mike Azinger, who said he wants to give kids in schools something to look up to and let them know it's OK to "say God" in school.

"We know there's a lot of kids that have problems at home, tough times at home that we don't know anything about," Azinger said,

speaking on the Senate floor. "Maybe they'll look up one day and say, 'In God We Trust' and know they can put their hope in God." The bill is now heading to the West Virginia House of Delegates. It requires public K-12 schools and public institutions of higher learning to display the official U.S. national motto on durable posters or in frames placed in a "conspicuous place" in each building.

The displays must also contain images of the U.S. national and state flags but can't depict any other words, images or information. They must be either be donated or purchased from private donations.

Similar laws have been passed in Texas, Kentucky, Louisiana, South Dakota, Utah, Virginia and several other states. Mississippi was the first state to pass a law mandating "In God We Trust" be displayed in public schools back in 2001. Former President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a law making "In God We Trust" the official U.S. national motto July 30, 1956, two years after pushing to have the phrase "under God" inserted into the Pledge of Allegiance.

"It was adopted during a time of disunity in America, at a time that unity was needed," Azinger said Monday. "And I think that's where we are in America in many ways." □

Smuggler tells U.S. jury he paid off ex-Mexico security chief

By JENNIFER PELTZ

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Describing meetings at a car wash and a smuggler's country house, a onetime drug trafficker testified Monday that he paid a former cabinet-level Mexican security official millions of dollars for help that included U.S. government information about a huge cocaine shipment in Mexico.

Óscar Nava Valencia, known as "El Lobo," said the payments to former security secretary Genaro García Luna also were intended to assure protection at a time when a schism in the notorious Sinaloa cartel was heading toward a drug-world war.

García Luna and a high-ranking police official "said they were going to stand with us," Nava Valencia told jurors at García Luna's U.S. federal drug trafficking trial.

García Luna is accused of accepting millions of dollars to let the Sinaloa cartel operate with impunity as it sent tons of cocaine to the U.S.

Defense lawyers haven't yet had their chance to question Nava Valencia, but they have argued that



Mexico's Secretary of Public Safety Genaro García Luna attends a press conference on the sidelines of an American Police Community meeting in Mexico City, Oct. 8, 2010.

Associated Press

the case rests on lies from self-interested criminals. García Luna has pleaded not guilty, and his lawyers have said the former cabinet member tried earnestly to combat the drug trade and is being abandoned by a U.S. government that once viewed him as a partner.

Nava Valencia, who is sometimes known as "El Lobo" Valencia and whose

nickname means "the wolf" in Spanish, pleaded guilty years ago to cocaine conspiracy. He once helmed Mexico's Milenio drug cartel. That enterprise had ties to the Sinaloa cartel during the reign of infamous kingpin Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, whose recent U.S. trial aired testimony about alleged payoffs to García Luna.

Nava Valencia told jurors he paid \$5 million to García Luna and other high-level government officials to try to free a shipping container packed with 10 tons (9,070 kg) of Colombian cocaine after it was seized in the Mexican Pacific Coast port of Manzanillo around 2007. The traffickers didn't get the drugs back; indeed, another 10-ton container was seized days later, and

the drugs were incinerated, Nava Valencia said.

At a meeting about a month later in a cartel bigwig's country house outside the central Mexican city of Cuernavaca, García Luna said he hadn't been able to intervene because the U.S. government and Mexican marines had been involved in the seizure, Nava Valencia testified.

But he said García Luna came through in another way: He later provided a document showing that the U.S. government had known about the shipment and its origins, information that the Mexican traffickers used to persuade their irritated Colombian suppliers that the problem had been on the Colombians' end. The Colombians then backed off their demand for a \$50 million reimbursement, Nava Valencia said. Nava Valencia recounted a second face-to-face meeting with García Luna some time later, amid a rift in the Sinaloa cartel. Nava Valencia ultimately aligned with Guzman's faction, which worried that its allies-turned-adversaries would turn to informing authorities so as to get police to harass their rivals. □

Ex-Twitter execs to testify on block of Hunter Biden story

By FARNOUSH AMIRI

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former Twitter employees are expected to testify next week before the House Oversight Committee about the social media platform's handling of reporting on President Joe Biden's son, Hunter Biden. The scheduled testimony, confirmed by the committee Monday, will be the first time the three former executives will appear before Congress to discuss the company's decision to initially block from Twitter a New York Post article on Hunter Biden's laptop in the weeks before the 2020

election.

Republicans have said the story was suppressed for political reasons, though no evidence has been released to support that claim.

The witnesses for the Feb. 8 hearing are expected to be Vijaya Gadde, former chief legal officer; James Baker, former deputy general counsel; and Yoel Roth, former head of safety and integrity.

The hearing is among the first of many in a GOP-controlled House to be focused on Biden and his family, as Republicans wield the power of their new, albeit slim, majority.

The New York Post first reported in October 2020 that it had received from former President Donald Trump's personal attorney, Rudy Giuliani, a copy of a hard drive of a laptop that Hunter Biden had dropped off 18 months earlier at a Delaware computer repair shop and never retrieved. Twitter initially blocked people from sharing links to the story for several days. Months later, Twitter's then-CEO Jack Dorsey called the company's communications around the Post article "not great." He added that blocking the article's URL with "zero context" around why it was blocked



A sign at Twitter headquarters is shown in San Francisco, Dec. 8, 2022.

Associated Press

was "unacceptable." The Post article at the time was greeted with skepticism due to questions about the laptop's origins, including Giuliani's involvement, and because top officials in the Trump administration had already warned that Russia was working to denigrate Joe Biden ahead of the 2020 election. The Kremlin had interfered in the 2016 race by hacking Democratic emails that were subsequently leaked, and fears that Russia would meddle again in the 2020 race were widespread across Washington. □

In Israel, disposable plastics trigger culture war, test PM

By ILAN BEN ZION

Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — On Idit Silman's first day as Israel's new environmental protection minister, she handed out soft drinks in disposable plastic cups to hospital patients.

The gesture held deep symbolic meaning in Israel, where soft drinks and single-use cups, plates and cutlery have become weapons in a culture war between the country's secular Jewish majority and the smaller but politically powerful religious minority. For much of the public, a tax imposed last year on plastic goods seemed like a straightforward way to cut down on the use of items that are major sources of pollution. But many ultra-Orthodox Jews saw the extra cost as an assault on a way of life that relies on the convenience of disposable goods to ease the challenges of managing their large families.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government, the most right-wing in Israel's history, relies heavily on ultra-Orthodox parties and has moved quickly to remove the tax on plastics. On Sunday, his Cabinet voted to repeal the tax, sending the matter to the full parliament for what is expected to be final ap-



A GreenNet recycling plant employee cleans the ground next to piles of disposable plastic ready for export, in Atarot industrial zone, north of Jerusalem, Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2023.

Associated Press

roval.

"We promised and we delivered," said Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich, leader of the Religious Zionism Party. "The fight against the cost of living is a fight we all are waging."

In 2021, when Netanyahu and his religious allies were in the opposition, then-Prime Minister Naftali Bennett's government authorized a tax on highly sugary drinks as a health measure to curb rising obesity rates and diabetes, and the tax on single-use plastics as a

means of fighting a plague of plastic pollution. The tax levied 11 shekels per kilogram (\$1.5 per pound) on single-use plastic goods, effectively doubling the market price.

Repealing those taxes were key demands of Netanyahu's ultra-Orthodox allies, who made them a rallying cry ahead of November's parliamentary election. Another coalition deal between Netanyahu and his ultra-Orthodox allies would effectively eliminate a refundable deposit

on plastic bottles imposed a year ago.

The United Nations Environment Program has called plastic waste "one of the biggest environmental scourges of our time," and says the equivalent of a garbage truck-full is dumped into the ocean each minute.

Plastics can take centuries to degrade, cause extensive damage to ecosystems and can contain compounds toxic to organisms.

Israel is a major consumer

of single-use plastics. The Environmental Protection Ministry said in a 2021 report that Israeli consumption of single-use plastics had more than doubled between 2009 and 2019. It said the per capita average hit 7.5 kilograms (16 pounds) per year five times the average in Europe.

Single-use plastics made up an estimated 90% of trash on Israel's coastline, and 19% of the garbage on public lands, constituting a major environmental threat, it said.

Nonetheless, Netanyahu's ultra-Orthodox allies, or Haredim, are celebrating the plastic tax's expected repeal. Disposable plasticware has become a key element of the Haredi lifestyle in Israel in recent decades, said Yisrael Cohen, an ultra-Orthodox political analyst.

Families with an average of six children per household use disposable plasticware for weekday meals and large Sabbath gatherings alike as a labor-saving solution to washing the dishes. Single-use plasticware is de rigueur in Jewish seminaries where ultra-Orthodox men study and eat their meals.

"It's an entire industry, an institution," he said. "Single-use plastic is a great solution for the Haredi community." □

China accuses Washington of abusing export controls

BEIJING (AP) — China's government on Monday criticized U.S. controls on technology exports as a trade violation, after Japan and the Netherlands agreed to join Washington in limiting Beijing's access to materials to make advanced processor chips they say can be used in weapons.

The Foreign Ministry didn't mention the latest development but accused Washington of abusing export controls and organizing other governments to "maintain its hegemony" and contain China.

The United States is trying to block China from acquiring

the most powerful processor chips and technology that would help its fledgling industry develop the ability to make them.

Washington says they can be used to make weapons and to facilitate the ruling Communist Party's surveillance and human rights abuses.

"This seriously violates market principles and international trade order," said a ministry spokeswoman, Mao Ning.

She said it "undermines the stability of global industrial and supply chains."

A person familiar with the agreement told The Associated Press on Sunday

that Japan and the Netherlands, important suppliers of technology and raw materials to make chips, agreed to join in U.S. controls.

Mao gave no indication how Beijing might respond to tighter export controls. The Communist Party has invested billions of dollars to develop its own chip industry, but its vendors still need foreign manufacturing equipment, raw materials and other technology.

Industry experts say Chinese producers are improving but cannot make chips required for the most advanced smartphones and other products. □



Exterior view of the head office of ASML, a leading maker of semiconductor production equipment, in Veldhoven, Netherlands, Monday, Jan. 30, 2023.

Associated Press

Pakistan mosque suicide bomber kills 59, wounds over 150

By RIAZ KHAN

Associated Press

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)

— A suicide bomber struck a crowded mosque inside a police compound in Pakistan on Monday, causing the roof to collapse and killing at least 59 people and wounding more than 150 others, officials said.

Most of the casualties were police officers. It was not clear how the bomber was able to slip into the walled compound, which houses the police headquarters in the northwestern city of Peshawar and is itself located in a high-security zone with other government buildings.

Sarbakaf Mohmand, a commander for the Pakistani Taliban, claimed responsibility for the attack on Twitter. The main spokesman for the militant group was not immediately available for comment.

"The sheer scale of the human tragedy is unimaginable. This is no less than an attack on Pakistan," tweeted Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif, who visited the wounded in Peshawar and vowed "stern action" against those behind the bombing. He expressed his



Security officials and rescue workers gather at the site of suicide bombing, in Peshawar, Pakistan, Monday, Jan. 30, 2023.

Associated Press

condolences to families of the victims, saying their pain "cannot be described in words."

Pakistan, which is mostly Sunni Muslim, has seen a surge in militant attacks since November, when the Pakistani Taliban ended their cease-fire with government forces.

Earlier this month, in another attack claimed by the Pakistani Taliban, a gunman shot and killed two intel-

ligence officers, including the director of the counter-terrorism wing of the country's military-based spy agency Inter-Services Intelligence. Security officials said Monday the gunman was traced and killed in a shootout in the northwest near the Afghan border. Monday's assault on a Sunni mosque inside the police facility was one of the deadliest attacks on security forces in recent years.

The militant group, also known as Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan or TTP, is separate from but a close ally of the Afghan Taliban. The TTP has waged an insurgency in Pakistan in the past 15 years, seeking stricter enforcement of Islamic laws, the release of its members in government custody and a reduction in the Pakistani military presence in areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province it has

long used as its base. More than 300 worshippers were praying in the mosque, with more approaching, when the bomber set off his explosives vest.

Many were injured when the roof came down, according to Zafar Khan, a police officer, and rescuers had to remove mounds of debris to reach worshippers still trapped under the rubble.

Meena Gul, who was in the mosque when the bomb went off, said he doesn't know how he survived un-hurt. The 38-year-old police officer said he heard cries and screams after the blast.

Mohammad Asim, a spokesman at the main government hospital in Peshawar, put the death toll at 59, with 157 others wounded. Police official Siddique Khan the bomber blew himself up while among the worshippers. Senior police and government officials attended the funerals of 30 police officers and arrangements to bury the rest were being made. Coffins were wrapped in the Pakistani flag their bodies were later handed over to relatives for burials. □

Germany pledges \$222 million for Brazil environment, Amazon

FABIANO MAISONNAVE

SAO PAULO (AP) — German development minister Svenja Schulze announced Monday that her government will make 204 million euros (\$222 million) available for environmental policies in Brazil.

Of this total, \$38 million is a donation to the Amazon Fund, Schulze told reporters in capital Brasilia. It is the most important international cooperation effort to preserve the Amazon rainforest, and is mostly funded by Norway. In 2019, former far-right President Jair Bolsonaro, who considered the Amazon an internal affair, dissolved the steering committee that selects sustainable projects to finance. In reaction, Germa-

ny and Norway froze their donations.

"With the new government and the team of President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva and (environment) minister Marina Silva, we have a great chance to protect the forest and to offer a new perspective to the people who live there," Schulze said. Under Bolsonaro, deforestation in Brazil's Amazon reached a 15-year high as he dismantled environmental protection policies in favor of agribusiness expansion.

Germany also pledged to provide \$87 million in low-interest loans for farmers to restore degraded areas and \$34 million for Amazon states to protect the rainforest.

"Despite all the difficulties, the increase in deforestation, the land grabbing, the fires, the dire state of the Indigenous populations, we see this as an opportunity to reverse this whole situation," Silva said during the press conference.

Lula, who took office in January, pledged to end all deforestation by 2030. His four-year term ends in December 2026.

The Amazon, which covers an area twice the size of India, acts as a buffer against climate change because its trees absorb large amounts of carbon dioxide, and roughly two-thirds of the Amazon rainforest lies in Brazil.

It is also the most biodiverse forest in the world and

holds 20% of the world's fresh water. □



Germany's Economic Cooperation and Development Minister Svenja Schulze, right, shakes hands with Brazil's Environment Minister Marina Silva after giving statements to the press in Brasilia, Brazil, Monday, Jan. 30, 2023.

Associated Press

A very warm Aruban welcome for the royal family



ORANJESTAD – Yesterday morning, the people of Aruba lined up the streets by the Wilhelmina Park to greet the royal family who are currently on a tour of the Caribbean part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

King Willem-Alexander, Queen Maxima and Princess Amalia were warmly received by people waving flags of Aruba and the Netherlands and wearing the bright or-

ange color of the House of Oranje-Nassau.

The children were the most excited to see the royal family come by and greet them. More than a thousand children from various schools around Aruba gathered in front of the building of Parliament and the seat of Government to meet the King, Queen and Princess, who walked from the Wilhelmina Park accompanied by His Excellency

the Governor of Aruba, Alfonso Boekhoudt, the Royal Visit Commission, the security protocol and different marines who were present.

About 180 children from the Leer-orkest – learning orchestra – gave a beautiful musical presentation for the royal family, who were delighted by their musical talent. This was followed by children singing group Muchanan Sabi – Smart Children – directed by Edselyn Figaroa who

sang and danced, and finished with an Aruban carnival song.

Following this warm welcome, the royal family entered the government building accompanied by Dutch Secretary of State for Kingdom Relations, Alexandra van Huffelen, the prime minister of Aruba, Evelyn Wever-Croes, ministers and the committee in order to have a meeting with the Cabinet. □

Papillon: the butterfly effect of magnificent food



PALM BEACH — Do you remember the film "Papillon" starring Steve McQueen? Papillon restaurant is the island's example where 'life imitates art.' The décor, especially the restrooms, was inspired by the movie. For more than a decade this restaurant has built a reputation with the fusion of classic French cuisine, Dutch and Caribbean flavors. Welcome in the world of wonders where ambiance, taste and service come together and you feel you are being welcomed in the home of the owner and her team.

"We find it really important that our guests have fun; can relax while listening to live music while their taste buds are being tickled by France, The Netherlands and the Caribbean. We offer a unique fusion of dishes and a night

not to forget," says owner Tina. She points out that all Covid-protocol is in place here, they are very keen on hygiene and offer outside dining on a cozy, elegant terrace with social distancing in place and right on the high-rise strip.

Fresh oysters, caviar and wild boar

You are on vacation, life is to enjoy! If you want something special, a different flow than the usual then Papillon is the place to go. Foodies are in heaven here with classic French dishes such as Foie Gras, Frog Legs, fresh Oysters coming in on a weekly basis from Holland, Escargots, Dover Sole à la Meunière flown in from Europe and filleted at the table, Duck Breast seared on the skin, roasted and braised Lamb in Balashi beer and slow braised Wild Boar Shank. Do not leave without trying the exclusive recommendation: Caviar! All of this combined with an extensive wine list from around the world makes Papillon a must-do on your Aruban vacation.

Let the music play!

We will give you another reason to visit: on Monday's and Friday's the famous Marisela who enchants you with her acoustic performance accompanied by percussion only; on Thursday's and Saturday's you can enjoy the tunes of live sax player Jairo and on Sunday's and Tuesday's Jose Herrera will enchant you with his keyboard talent. The musicians interact with the guests, requests can be send in, the live tunes definitely add to the experience.

Vegetarian vibes present

Impressive vegetarian/vegan dishes are set up especially for the guests by the chef and Meredith from Vegan Aruba. "We offer vegan choices that are really good and tasty. Our daily soup is always vegan too." What are you waiting for, make sure to pay a visit to this elegant yet laid-back restaurant while on Aruba. You are most welcome! Papillon Restaurant is located at The Village across the Hilton Aruba Caribbean Resort &Casino and within walking distance of all other major hotels.

Make your reservation today at:

info@papillonaruba.com
or call/WhatsApp + 00297 6995400

Open Daily: 5pm – 10.00pm – Early Bird from 5pm – 7pm

For all menus and specials visit the website: www.papillonaruba.com. □



Let us customize your sunset experience.

For reservations or more information, visit our Sunset Concierge desk located in the Aruba Tower Lobby or email us at sunsetconcierge@hilton.com.

24-hour advance reservations required.

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Camping season 2023 announced

Oranjestad - In connection with the upcoming camping season during spring break, the Chief of Police, Mr. Ramon Arnhem, urges all campers to be aware of the conditions set for the camping permit.

Camping starts on Sunday, April 2, 2023, from noon, and the last day is April 16, 2023. It is only permitted to set up tents and trailers on the beach during these days. The Police will remove any tents or trailers placed on the beach before the starting day and time, at the owner's expense.

After April 16, 2023, campers must remove all camping-related objects should be removed from the beach. Failing to remove these will also result in their removal at the permit holder's expense. The police urge everyone to keep all beaches clean. Dispose of all trash in trash containers or trash bags.

Deadline for a camping permit

The last day to apply for a camping permit is March 15, 2023, at 4:30 pm. You can submit permit applications during weekdays from 8:00 am to 11:30 am and from 1:00 pm to 04:30 pm.

Additional conditions are now applicable: BBQ on the beach (sand) is not allowed under any circumstance. BBQ is only allowed in designated areas and when using a gas BBQ Pit. Charcoal is not permit-

ted at all. Tents and trailers used for camping should be in good condition and placed at least 10 meters from the water's edge and 5 meters from the road's side. Not complying with these guides will also result in the removal of these tents or trailers by the Police.

Camping sites can under no circumstance be re-served. You are allowed to only place a tent, trailer, and objects in the location designated by Government officials.

Tents/trailers should have proper first aid resources (First Aid kit)

Obscene objects or posters are prohibited.

Campers should always comply with all the conditions set in the camping permit.

Motor vehicles, bicycles, horses, or any cart is prohibited on the beach.

Campfires are prohibited on the beach.

The sale of food, refreshments, cocktails, or any other item on the beach without the proper permit is prohibited.

You can only play music in a tent or trailer during the weekdays until 10:00 pm and on the weekend until midnight as long as it does not cause nuisances to neighbor campers.

It is not allowed to trim or chop any tree without a permit.

Boating or setting anchors in designated swimming zones is not allowed. It is prohibited to tie boats to

buoys meant for ships. It is not allowed to use pallets and cardboard on the beach. Failing to comply with this rule will result in the removal by the authorities. Camping season The beach or palm trees are not allowed to be used as a toilet.

Horses and dogs are not allowed on the beach.

Beach huts are not allowed to be used for camping and should remain available for beachgoers.

All beaches should be kept clean. Glass bottles and or glass shrapnels must be removed immediately from the sand and not discarded in the ocean. It also applies to all trash.

You cannot transfer the camping permit to a third party.

The permit holder should have the permit visible to the police in the tent/trailer. The permit holder's right to use the camping site is exclusive during the camping period. Before the camping date, no area can be reserved/marked or cordoned off, etc.

The permit holder is solely responsible for any harm caused to others by his/her trailer/tent or any other object.

The permit holder must strictly follow police directives in the interest of public order, the safety of people, morality, and property.

Failing to comply with any of these conditions is considered similar to camping without a permit. The camping permit will be immediately revoked and



may result in a fine.

The deadline for the camping permit application is March 15, 2023, at 4:30 pm. Comply with all the rules

and regulations and have great camping. Be aware that the police will be actively checking all beaches and camping sites during the camping season. □

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Tel.: 587-2667
Website: www.thewestdeck.com

Travellers' Choice 2020

Don't forget to visit Aruba's famous Red Anchor

At the south east coast of the island, standing alone on a windswept and barren land stands a popular Aruba landmark – a large anchor. It overlooks the sea just beyond, watching over the shipping lanes. It stands there in memory and in honor of all seamen who have lost their life at sea.

Where to Find the Anchor?

The anchor is a "must see" landmark when you visit Aruba. It is among the most photographed historical landmarks for the island. You want to make sure you add this stop on your itinerary when you are visiting the south coast of Aruba. The bright red anchor against the backdrop of the deep blue Caribbean sea and the azure blue skies, make a great backdrop for your vacation pictures.

The anchor is located at the entrance to Gate 6 to the former Lago Colony. It is on the outskirts of Seroe Colorado, on the south east point of the island at the "T" junction to Baby Beach.

Depending on where you are staying on the island, follow the signs that

indicate the way to Baby Beach. Once you reach the T-junction, it will be right in front of you.

About the Anchor

Size

It will be hard to miss the anchor, it's huge! The anchor that weighs 21,772 kilos, is approximately 10 feet 6 inches wide and 15 feet, 6 inches tall. On the anchor there are some numbers. The 4112 and 4115, which are believed to be the serial numbers that refer to the "fluke" or horizontal and vertical parts of the anchor, respectively. The number 21772K refers to the weight of the anchor in kilos.

This type of anchor was manufactured by Hoesch Dortmund Horde, at a foundry located in Germany.

Where did the Anchor Come From?

There are a number of stories as to the origins of the anchor, which one do you think it was? (Unfortunately the mystery has never been solved, so your imagination can pick which one you think it might be!)

Story 1:

"According to Mr. Manuel M. Curiel, an ex-

Lago Tug Captain, a fully laden VLCC (Very Large Crude Carrier) was seeking a mooring at the 15-mile anchorage, known as Bara, on the southern part of the island. This is the usual shallow mooring location for ships awaiting orders, etc. The weather was rough with strong current. The normal procedure is that they would walk out three shackles (about 90 feet) until the anchor touches the bottom while the chain must rest on the bottom. Subsequently, they will walk out some extra shackles and when the ship starts to swing or lean on one side, the anchor is properly set. Because of the rough weather, unfortunately they did not get the time to walk out the extra tackles and because of the tension exerted on the winch, it broke, and they lost the anchor and its chain."

Story 2:

"Mr. Curiel also said that at one time a small tanker with a Korean crew, while lifting their anchor also lifted another anchor near the inner harbor. When the ship asked for assistance, he went with his tugboat along with a barge, to help. But

eventually they had to cut the chain and let the anchor go to the bottom because they could not untangle them."

How Did The Anchor Become a Landmark?

Sometime between 1980 and 1985, three gentlemen (Mr. Wim Martinus – the Harbormaster of Aruba; Mr. August Genser – the ex-Division Superintendent of Lago's Laboratory; and Mr. Willie Davis – Owner of Filtec at Zeewijk in San Nicolas), were having a conversation with Mr. Charlie Brouns Jr. at his famous Charlie's Bar and Restaurant in San Nicolas. Charlie, who was a visionary and had dreams for developing the San Nicolas area, told these gentlemen that he would like to come up with something innovative for the San Nicolas area to draw tourism to the area.

The "anchor", which at that time was being stored at the Oranjestad harbor, was suggested as an option. Charlie liked the idea! He then contacted the President of Lago for permission to acquire the anchor. He was granted permission and the anchor was then relocated to its present

location and dedicated "To All Seamen" on the occasion of the closing of the Lago Oil Refinery on March 31, 1985.

Through the Years

Through the years the Anchor was slowly weathering from the wind and salt. As time passed, sadly the origin and purpose of the anchor slowly faded away from people's memories.

After Charles Brouns Jr died on September 15, 2004, his friend Mr. Sam Speziale, requested assistance from the management of Valero Aruba Refinery to help maintain the monument. The Valero Aruba Refinery, graciously sandblasted and painted the anchor and poured a concrete pad around it. On April 17, 2005, the anchor monument was rededicated "To All Seamen" in a formal ceremony in memory of Charles Brouns Jr.

Today, the anchor stands both as memorial to all seaman who have lost their lives at sea, but also as a silent reminder that Seroe Colorado is part of San Nicolas and that San Nicolas is still a vibrant and important part of the island of Aruba.

The Best Time to Visit

When you are planning your visit to the south end of the island, you will want to include in your itinerary the many things to see and do there. The anchor will be just one of these stops, (keep an eye out for our future editions, we publish our recommendations!).

With that being said, I have to say, if you enjoy catching a sunrise, the anchor is one of the best places on the island to catch the sunrise. But in reality, anytime is a good time to visit, depending on your personal schedule. □



Third edition of Baseball in Paradise to take place in October

ORANJESTAD – Last Thursday, minister of Sport, Endy Croes met with Mr. Shury Tremus, organizer of the successful youth championship Baseball in Paradise. The third edition of this championship will take place in October.

The date for the championship has been set to 9th-14th of October 2023. It will be played in four different categories: Under-12, U14, U16, and U19 years.

On the 8th of October there will be an Open Showcase, where 25 international scouts, mainly from the United States, will be present in Aruba. The young people who register for this event will be seen by the scouts. At the end of the competition, the scouts will select two teams from all the talent they have seen that they believe have potential. The selected teams will play a prospect game so that they can be seen more closely, and this will create opportunities for our

athletes.

Minister Croes indicated that until now, there are 44 teams that have registered, of which 14 are from Aruba, one from Canada, 11 from Curaçao, 6 from the Dominican Republic, 7 from the Netherlands and 4 from Mexico.

The organizers are checking for the possibility to bring some umpires from abroad. There will also be an expert in Aruba to give a workshop on online scoring.

Aside from the parks that Mr. Tremus is negotiating to use – Joe Laveist Sport Park, Pos Chiquito Ballpark and Complejo Deportivo Crismon Angela y Nadi Croes – the organization Baseball in Paradise are meeting to use additional parks during the week of the championship, among others, the park of Duracell, Centro di Bario Noord, Xander Bogaerts Ball Park, Maria Maai and they will also meet with



those in charge of Flatstone Ballpark.

To conclude, minister Croes emphasizes that it was a good meeting and he wishes Mr. Tremus and Future Stars Baseball Academy a lot of success with the preparations for the third edition of Baseball in Paradise.

According to their web-

site, "Baseball in Paradise is an international youth baseball tournament that is held annually in the Antilles. This non-profit tournament is a place where kids from all over the world can come and play the game they love, on a little piece of paradise! Anyone can enter Baseball In Paradise! This goes for existing teams, clubs, and baseball acad-

emies, as well as new teams put together especially for participation in our tournament! Teams can enroll in the age classes U12, U14, U16, and U18 (19), with the minimum player age of 8 years old for the youngest players. Registration is done by filling in the registration form and agreeing to the general terms and conditions therein." □

Pedagogical Institute of Aruba (IPA) received visit by Dutch delegation

ORANJESTAD – Recently, the Pedagogical Institute of Aruba (IPA) received a visit from Robbert Dijkgraaf, minister of Education, Culture and Science of the Netherlands, together with representatives from the VNO (Representative of the Netherlands in Oranjestad). This is in the context of the Kibrahacha project, which is about "Educating Together" between the ABC islands.

In Aruba there are various primary schools that work with IPA in this project to educate IPA's students together in practice.

The goal of the meeting was to see how all the different actors are experiencing the Kibrahacha project and at the same time meet the Dutch minister of Education.

During the meeting, the possibility was explored on how the Netherlands can



continue contributing to this positive development.

The morning started with a presentation by drs. Marilyn Richardson, general director of IPA. Richardson explained the courses that IPA offers, the collaboration of the institute with other local and international institutes and organizations.

Richardson also elaborated on the vision and goal for the future for IPA, and the challenges that come with it.

Minister Dijkgraaf said that he recognizes the challenges confronted by the community and education in Aruba also play a role in the Netherlands, and he is

interested in finding possibilities to collaborate and see how every side can help each other with these challenges. He said also that they are exploring the possibility of a Royal Grant to give opportunity for all students in the Kingdom of the Netherlands can do their internships in the countries within the Kingdom.

Leader of the Kibrahacha project, drs. Marisol Croes said that Kibrahacha has a positive effect on the collaboration between the institutes and the primary schools.

Also present were two third-year students of the primary education study at IPA, namely Nataly Tobar and Thyara Doornkamp. The students told about how they experience the changes that have been taking place through the Kibrahacha project in a very positive way. One of the changes is the coupling of theory received at IPA and the contents of practice in the same semester.

The way Kibrahacha is organized on the ABC islands – that is, Aruba, Bonaire and Curaçao – can be an example for the Netherlands in their regional collaboration. □

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 41 Tart fruits

1 Cries of insight 42 Fizzy drinks

5 Book part 43 Annual

10 Dollar divisions 11 race, for short

12 Dancer Castle 13 Exams for absentees

15 Airport sched. abbr. 16 Tissue layer

17 Even score 18 Belgrade setting

20 On this spot

21 Wet, in a way

22 March middle

23 Become prevalent

25 Anxiety about exclusion, for short

28 Over

31 Privy to

32 Trombone parts

34 Old auto

35 Had lunch

36 One — million

37 They may be taken on a treadmill

40 Shake your booty



Yesterday's answer

1 High points

2 Gangster's gun

3 Turkey's capital

4 Sault — Marie

5 Metropolis

6 Metal source

7 Like some interests

8 Complete events

9 Views again

11 Flat on one's back

14 Tries out, as a game

19 Plains grazer

20 Delhi tongue

24 Coves

25 Historic

26 Boxing

27 Secured to the dock

29 Prolific inventor

30 Ready for the body shop

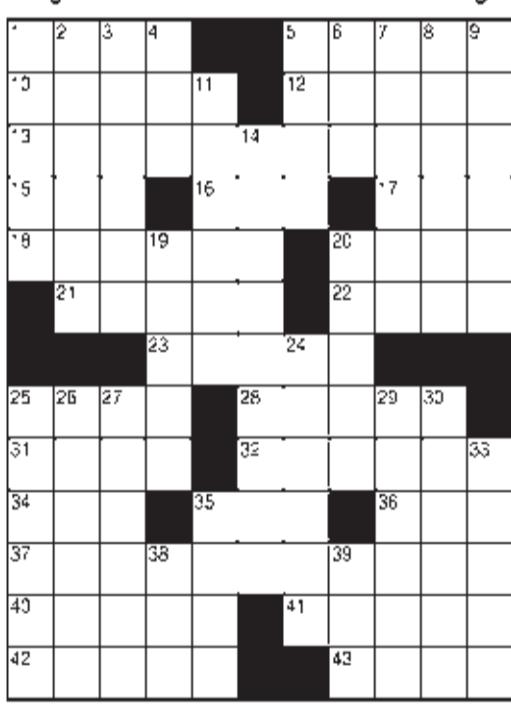
33 Impudent

35 Invites

38 Pitching stat

39 Quarter-back

Manning



1-31

AXYDIBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three U's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

1-31

CRYPTOQUOTE

JNEI WXPLY QMLCCH EFYC
NEIUXZ SXRC YCXQ FRS JXXU
FMXZRS XRAL NR F TONJL
H X Z AXZJS WNYY NC

— "ELMMNY GZLJJLM'Y SFH XEE"
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: YOU'VE FAILED,
YOUR HIGHNESS, I AM A JEDI, LIKE MY FATHER
BEFORE ME. — "RETURN OF THE JEDI"



This May 18, 2021, photo shows a woman typing on a laptop on a train in New Jersey. This May 18, 2021, photo shows a woman typing on a laptop on a train in New Jersey.

Associated Press

Kimberly Palmer: How to safely use payment apps

By KIMBERLY PALMER
of NerdWallet

As a frequent PayPal user, I wasn't surprised to see a payment request on the app pop up. But when I read it, I knew something was wrong.

In the message, a stranger asked me to send them \$699 in order to get a "refund." While I instantly recognized the request as a scam, I still felt vulnerable; I didn't immediately see any obvious way to flag the request as a scam, and with just one click, I could have accidentally sent this stranger a huge chunk of money.

I'm hardly alone in my worry over security when using peer-to-peer payment apps: According to a Pew Research Center survey published in September 2022, about one-third of people who use payment apps or websites say they are "a little or not at all confident that payment apps or sites keep people's personal information safe from hackers or unauthorized users."

And an alarming 13% of people who have ever used PayPal, Venmo, Zelle or Cash App say they have made the mistake of sending money to a scam artist. □

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Aruba Divi Phoenix

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Palm Beach

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ARUBA TODAY

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Downtown



Harrison Ford inspires cast in new comedy 'Shrinking'

By BROOKE LEFFERTS

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — When Bill Lawrence was developing his new Apple TV+ comedy "Shrinking," he introduced one character in the pilot script as a "Harrison Ford-type" but never dreamed he would get the real deal. Although the showrunner has had comedy success working with big names and executive-producing hits like "Scrubs," "Cougar Town" and "Ted Lasso," nabbing a huge movie star like Ford seemed unrealistic. But he decided to take a shot and send Ford the script.

He was gobsmacked when the "Indiana Jones" actor liked the story and eventually agreed to play the part of a tough therapist who works with star Jason Segel in a mental health practice.

"If he had not shown up on set, I would not have been shocked," Lawrence told the Associated Press in a recent interview. "But he showed up. He's lovely, he's inspiring. He's 80 years old and still challenging himself."

For "Shrinking" which starts streaming Friday Law-



Harrison Ford, left, a cast member in "Shrinking," looks over at fellow cast member Jason Segel at the premiere of the Apple TV+ series, Thursday, Jan. 26, 2023, at the Directors Guild of America in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

rence teamed with Segel and writer Brett Goldstein (also Roy Kent in "Ted Lasso") to help create and write the show. They had the lofty goal of making a comedy about grief, set it in an office shared by therapists and starring Segel, Ford, Jessica Williams, and Christa Miller. Segel plays

a character whose wife dies suddenly, leaving the father of a teen daughter lost and willing to ignore his ethics to start telling his patients what he really thinks. Ford's character is a curmudgeonly colleague and mentor who delivers zingers with restrained glee.

Lawrence calls working

with Ford a "career highlight," and says there's only one downside.

"Everybody's terrified of ... telling him to do anything," Lawrence said with a laugh. "But he's so much fun to work with."

Every scene gets ruined at least one take by me or one of the actors in the

middle of it going 'It's Harrison Ford! It's crazy.'

Goldstein, who isn't acting in this show but serves as another executive producer, describes Ford as "dream casting" and says they still don't know how they got him.

"He really loved the scripts and related to a lot of the aspects of the character," Goldstein said. "We talked to him a lot about character, and it was so easy that ... I feel like I should have had to complete a series of Herculean tasks to get him, you know what I mean?"

Segel appreciated how Ford "breaks through the awe really quickly so that you can get down to work."

"One of the things that's really cool about Harrison Ford is that he considers himself a tradesman, like a craftsman. He was a carpenter and now he's an actor," Segel said. "His job is to come in and build these scenes and you're his partner in that."

Williams, who plays another therapist, shares witty banter with Ford in many scenes and says it was "surreal" to work with the acting legend she watched in movies as a kid. □

Jesmyn Ward novel 'Let Us Descend' to be published Oct. 3

By HILLEL ITALIE

AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The next novel by Jesmyn Ward, the two-time National Book Award winner, is the story of an enslaved teenage girl that the publisher is calling a blend of magical realism, historical narrative and Dante's "Inferno."

Scribner, an imprint of Simon & Schuster, announced Friday that Ward's "Let Us Descend" will come out Oct. 3. It's her first novel since "Sing, Unburied, Sing," winner of the National Book Award in 2017, and first fictional work set in the distant past. The 45-year-old Ward, the only Black author to receive two NBAs for fiction, has been widely praised for her striking lyricism and deep, uncompromising

perspective.

In a statement issued by Scribner, Ward said that she wanted to explore the "hard truth" of her new

book's protagonist, Annis, and what it meant to "have little to no physical agency over her own body."

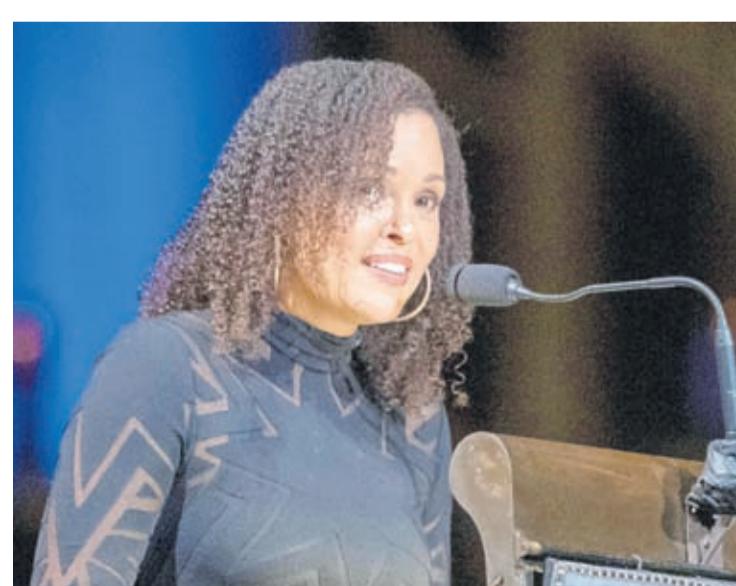
"I also wanted to encour-

age readers to feel with and for Annis, and to recreate her experience as viscerally as possible. It took years and multiple drafts to understand how Annis and enslaved people might have retained their sense of self, their sense of hope, in a time and place that attempted to negate both, day in and out," she said. Ward added that she had to take that time to "figure out how to look straight at her life and relay the harshness and terror of her days, but also to recognize her resistance, her tenderness, her imagination, her belief in who she is and what she is capable of, which she retains, even through the deepest darkness."

Ward, who grew up in Mississippi and has set much

of her work in the fictional Mississippi town Bois Sauvage, won National Book Awards for her two most recent novels: "Salvage the Bones," which takes place around the time of Hurricane Katrina, and the surreal "Sing, Unburied, Sing," about the struggles of a Mississippi family. She is also a recipient of a MacArthur "Genius" grant and, in 2022, became the youngest winner of the Library of Congress's Prize for American Fiction, a lifetime achievement honor.

Ward's other books include the novel "Where the Line Bleeds" and the memoir "Men We Reaped," a finalist for a National Book Critics Circle Prize in 2014. She currently teaches at Tulane University. □



Author Jesmyn Ward speaks during the Celebration of the Life of Toni Morrison in New York on Nov. 21, 2019.

Associated Press

Mahomes, Hurts set for historic Super Bowl matchup

By ROB MAADDI
AP Pro Football Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Black quarterbacks have come a long way in the NFL since Fritz Pollard became the first to play in the league in 1923 and Doug Williams was the first to start and win a Super Bowl following the 1987 season.

Now, Patrick Mahomes and Jalen Hurts will be the first Black QBs to face off in a Super Bowl.

It's fitting that a season which began with 11 Black QBs starting in Week 1 will end with a historic matchup.

Mahomes can become the first two-time winner if he leads the Kansas City Chiefs to victory over the Philadelphia Eagles on Feb. 12. Hurts aims to become the fourth Black QB to win the Super Bowl, joining Williams, Mahomes and Russell Wilson.

Michael Vick was the first Black QB selected No. 1 overall in the draft in 2001. McNair became the first Black QB to win MVP in 2003. Mahomes and Lamar Jackson won it back-to-back years.

They all had to overcome



Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes holds the Lamar Hunt Trophy after the NFL AFC Championship playoff football game against the Cincinnati Bengals, Sunday, Jan. 29, 2023, in Kansas City, Mo. The Chiefs won 23-20.

Associated Press

stereotypes to get to this point. Jackson said a scout from the Los Angeles Chargers asked him to run routes at the NFL combine in 2018. The Baltimore Ravens ended up selecting him with the 32nd pick in the first round and he was MVP in his second season.

Donovan McNabb, a six-time Pro Bowl QB who

started five NFC championship games for the Eagles, was told by some college scouts that he had to play running back or wide receiver. He wouldn't switch positions, went to Syracuse to play quarterback and was drafted No. 2 overall in 1999 by Philadelphia.

Hurts began his NFL career in 2020 as an all-purpose QB

after the Eagles took him in the second round. Playing behind Carson Wentz, Hurts had 12 rushing attempts, one catch and threw just three passes in his first nine games before taking over as Philadelphia's QB.

He clearly has not forgotten that the decision to draft him in the second round of the 2020 draft was

widely criticized by reporters and fans. "My first year here, (people) probably didn't even want to draft me here," Hurts said Sunday. "It was probably one of those things. But it always handles itself."

Neither Hurts nor Mahomes celebrated their conference championship wins too much. The main goal remains ahead. They each want one more win.

Hurts puffed a victory cigar after the Eagles routed the San Francisco 49ers 31-7 but he showed little emotion, per usual, in his post-game news conference.

"I don't really know how to feel to be honest. You work really hard to put yourself in this position and I'm forever grateful," Hurts said. "Only God knows the things that each individual on this team has been able to overcome for us to come together as a team and do something special as a group. That's what means the most. I always want to go out there and give my best regardless of what's going on because I don't want to let down the guy next to me. That makes us all go harder." □

Djokovic back at top of ATP rankings; Sabalenka No. 2 in WTA

By HOWARD FENDRICH
AP Tennis Writer

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Novak Djokovic's Australian Open championship returned him to a rather familiar spot on Monday: No. 1 in the ATP rankings.

His four-place rise from No. 5 to replace Carlos Alcaraz at No. 1 is the largest jump to the top spot in the 50-year history of the computerized rankings for men's tennis.

"You never know how much more time you have left, so, of course, I nurture and celebrate these moments of becoming No. 1 again and Grand Slam champion," the 35-year-old Djokovic said after beating Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-3, 7-6 (4), 7-6 (5) in the final at Melbourne Park on Sunday night, "even more

than I have, maybe ever in my career. I don't take it for granted."

Aryna Sabalenka's first major title moved her up from No. 5 to a career-best-equaling No. 2 in the WTA rankings, behind only three-time major champion Iga Swiatek.

Ons Jabeur, twice a finalist at Slams in 2022, went from No. 2 to No. 3, followed by No. 4 Jessica Pegula, No. 5 Caroline Garcia and No. 6 Coco Gauff.

The player Sabalenka beat in Saturday's Australian Open final, Elena Rybakina, makes her top 10 debut at No. 10, up from No. 25. This marks Djokovic's 374th week leading the ATP, adding to his record. He earned a 10th title at the Australian Open and tied Rafael Nadal with 22 Grand Slam

trophies.

Alcaraz slid to No. 2. He had become the youngest man to be No. 1 when he took over at age 19 after winning the U.S. Open last September. Alcaraz missed the Australian Open because of a leg injury.

Nadal, who hurt his left hip flexor during a second-round loss to Mackenzie McDonald of the United States, dropped from No. 2 to No. 6.

Tsitsipas went from No. 4 to No. 3 because of his run in Melbourne; he would have been No. 1 for the first time if he had managed to win the title. Casper Ruud, a two-time Grand Slam runner-up who lost in the second round to Jenson Brooksby of the United States, went from No. 3 to No. 4. Andrey Rublev is No.

5 after getting to the quarterfinals.

Cracking the top 20 for the first time is Tommy Paul, a 25-year-old American who reached his first Grand Slam semifinal before exit-

ing against Djokovic. Paul's showing in Melbourne lifted him 16 spots from No. 35 to No. 19.

He is one of 10 U.S. men in the top 50, something that last happened in 1995. □



Novak Djokovic of Serbia hugs the Norman Brookes Challenge Cup in the locker-room after defeating Stefanos Tsitsipas of Greece in the men's singles final at the Australian Open tennis championship in Melbourne, Australia, Monday, Jan 30, 2023.

Associated Press

Hall of Famer Bobby Hull, the Golden Jet, dies at 84

By JAY COHEN
AP Sports Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — When Bobby Hull got the puck, he was tough to stop. He had blazing speed, a hard slap shot and tons of confidence.

Long before today's biggest stars took the ice, "The Golden Jet" put on quite a show.

Hull, a Hall of Fame winger and two-time NHL MVP who helped the Chicago Blackhawks win the Stanley Cup in 1961, has died. He was 84.

The Blackhawks and the NHL Alumni Association announced Hull's death on Monday. There were no further details provided by either organization.



Former Chicago Blackhawks player Bobby Hull is introduced to fans during the NHL hockey team's convention in Chicago, July 26, 2019.

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The Blackhawks said Hull "delivered countless memories to our fans, whom he adored. Generations of Chicagoans were dazzled by Bobby's shooting prowess, skating skill and overall team leadership that led to 604 career goals, a franchise record that remains to this day. We send our deepest sympathies to the Hull family."

Hull was one of the most prolific forwards in NHL history, scoring 610 times during his 16-year career with Chicago, Hartford and Winnipeg.

Nicknamed "The Golden Jet" for his speed and blond hair, he also collected 303 goals while playing for the Jets in the World Hockey Association for seven seasons.

While Hull starred on the ice, he faced legal and family issues in his personal life.

Hull was convicted of assaulting a police officer who intervened in a dispute with then-wife Deborah in 1986. He also was accused of battery, but that charge was dropped after Deborah told authorities she didn't want to testify against her husband, a state attorney told the Chicago Tribune.

Hull's second wife, Joanne, accused him of abuse during an interview with ESPN

for a 2002 show.

A Russian newspaper reported in 1998 that Hull said Adolf Hitler "had some good ideas." Hull denied making the comment, calling it "false and defamatory."

Hull was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 1983 and his No. 9 sweater was retired by the Blackhawks that same year. He was estranged from the team for a while before he was named a Blackhawks ambassador in a ceremony with former teammate Stan Mikita in 2008. Hull and Mikita have adjacent statues outside the United Center.

The franchise announced in February 2022 that Hull had retired from any official team role, calling it a joint decision.

"Bobby Hull will always be remembered as one of the greatest Blackhawks players of all time. He was a beloved member of the Blackhawks family," team owner Rocky Wirtz said in a statement.

"When I assumed leadership of the organization upon my father's passing in 2007, one of my first priorities was to meet with Bobby to convince him to come back as an ambassador of the team. His connection to our fans was special and irreplaceable."

Hull's brother, Dennis, played for Chicago for most of his 14 years in the league, and Bobby's son, Brett, spent 19 years in the NHL. Bobby and Brett each won the Hart Trophy as league MVP, becoming the first father-son duo to accomplish the feat. Bobby won in 1964-65 and 1965-1966, while Brett won in 1990-1991.

Bobby Hull helped the Blackhawks return to the top of the NHL after they were one of the worst teams in the league for years before his debut during the 1957-58 season. He had 13 goals and 34 assists in his first campaign with the team, finishing second in the Calder Trophy race for rookie of the year. □